

2016 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY REPRESENTATIVES BARRAS, ABRAHAM, ABRAMSON, ADAMS, AMEDEE, ANDERS, ARMES, BACALA, BAGLEY, BAGNERIS, BERTHELOT, BILLIOT, BISHOP, BOUIE, BROADWATER, CHAD BROWN, TERRY BROWN, CARMODY, CARPENTER, GARY CARTER, ROBBY CARTER, STEVE CARTER, CHANEY, CONNICK, COUSSAN, COX, CROMER, DANAHAY, DAVIS, DEVILLIER, DWIGHT, EDMONDS, EMERSON, FALCONER, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GAINES, GAROFALO, GISCLAIR, GLOVER, GUINN, HALL, JIMMY HARRIS, LANCE HARRIS, HAVARD, HAZEL, HENRY, HENSGENS, HILFERTY, HILL, HODGES, HOFFMANN, HOLLIS, HORTON, HOWARD, HUNTER, HUVAL, IVEY, JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, MIKE JOHNSON, ROBERT JOHNSON, JONES, NANCY LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LEOPOLD, LOPINTO, LYONS, MACK, MAGEE, MARCELLE, MCFARLAND, MIGUEZ, DUSTIN MILLER, GREGORY MILLER, MONToucET, MORENO, JAY MORRIS, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, PEARSON, PIERRE, POPE, PRICE, PUGH, PYLANT, REYNOLDS, RICHARD, SCHEXNAYDER, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, SHADOIN, SIMON, SMITH, STOKES, TALBOT, THIBAUT, WHITE, WILLMOTT, AND ZERINGUE AND SENATORS ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, BROWN, CARTER, CHABERT, CLAITOR, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LONG, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD, AND WHITE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of state representative Rodnette "Ronnie" Bethley Edwards.

WHEREAS, it was with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana learned of the death of their colleague and dear friend, Ronnie Edwards, on Wednesday, February 24, 2016, at the age of sixty-three, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie Edwards was a native of Woodville, Mississippi, and a resident of Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie Edwards was an esteemed public servant who left an indelible mark on the lives of the citizens of House District 29, which encompasses East Baton Rouge and West Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, prior to her election to the House of Representatives, Ms. Edwards served with great passion on the Baton Rouge Metro Council for six years; and

WHEREAS, she became an advocate of healthy living initiatives and cancer screenings; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Edwards was well known for her passion for affordable housing; she worked for the Urban Restoration Enhancement Corporation; and

WHEREAS, on Monday, January 11, 2016, Ms. Edwards was sworn in to the House of Representatives; she was assigned to serve as a member of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, and the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works; and

WHEREAS, she was a member of the Acadiana Delegation, the Capital Region Legislative Delegation, the Democratic Caucus, the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, and the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus; and

WHEREAS, Representative Edwards will forever be respected and remembered for her commitment to the citizens of Louisiana, for her compassion, for her generosity, her contagious smile, and for the fierce determination with which she fought to bring her innovative ideas to life for the betterment of all Louisianians; and

WHEREAS, Representative Edwards is survived by her loving husband, Oliver G. Edwards; her mother, Gladys D. Hammond; her children, Chanel Gené Edwards Ward and Cody Jerome Edwards; her stepchildren, Oliver G. Edwards, Jr., and Tammy Edwards; her grandchildren, Autumn Edwards, Prince Edwards, Heaven Edwards, and Israel Edwards; her step grandchildren, Tiara Edwards and Jada Edwards; her step great-grandchild, Amaya Anderson; and her brother, Derek Maurice Bethley; and numerous relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, Representative Edwards was preceded in death by her father, James Bethley, and her grandparents, Reverend George L. Davis and Hester Jane Walker Davis; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Legislature of Louisiana to take proper notice of Representative Edwards' accomplishments and to express the immense pride of the people of the state in this beloved individual; and

WHEREAS, the death of Representative Edwards has left a tremendous void in her community and has created a genuine sense of sorrow in the many citizens whose lives she

touched, including the Legislature of Louisiana, who mourn the loss of this extraordinary woman who served her state and community so well and passionately.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of state representative Rodnette "Ronnie" Bethley Edwards; does hereby recognize that her legacy of dedicated public service shall forever endure; and does hereby record for posterity the abiding appreciation of the citizens of Louisiana for her extraordinary contributions and achievements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Ronnie Edwards.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE